# AN OPENER OF EMPIRE

What Col. Davidson Has Done had been proven by experts and adjudged by a high court of Canada to be worthless. for Northwest Canada.

IN THE "BAD LANDS"

BUT HE KNEW THAT THEY WERE NOT BAD.

Peopled a Wilderness and Made the Desert to Blossom Like

the Rose.

special Correspondence of The Evening Star. WINNIPEG, Man., October 15, 1904. In this letter I want to relate the simple but instructive, story of an empire opener, whose audacity and daring staggered the sturdy men of the north, and whose almost instantaneous success has fairly amazed the shrewdest land men in America.

Between forty and fifty years ago a boy was born on a farm near London, Ontario. Nineteen years later he crossed over and went west. He inherited a love for land. Sprung from the soil, he was ever in touch with this good old mother earth. He had a boyish ambition to own a farm; this grew to a desire to own the biggest farm in Minnesota. Eventually he possessed that, and still has it-12,000 acres it holds.

Very early in life he became interested in the land business, more especially in colorization schemes, and took an active part in the settlement of his adopted state. He was successful. He was so totally different from the tempestuous land boomer that serious conservative business men came in time to take his signals. He never boomed. I hate comparisons, and yet this man re-minds me of David Harum or Moffet of Denver. When he wants to buy a big mine he says to those who are lucky enough to share in his enterprises: "I'll go in with you." He built a railway once in the wake of a financial panic, because he was will-ing to find 51 per cent of the funds. He never booms, he buys and develops.

Likewise, that smooth, yet forceful Yan-ko-Canadian, Sir William Van Horne, who toed the other way when crossing the line, has but to put up a finger and the financial men of New York and London will help him to build a railway anywhere on earth, lecause they know there would be no stock-job, leaving in its wake gaunt famine, black death and yellow literature. He never booms, he builds and operates. To my

### A Matter of Land.

The land allotted by the dominion gov ernment as a bonus to the builders of Qu'Appelle, Long Lake and Saskatchewan railway had been regarded as bad land. The real estate agents who were handling the grant for the company sold a block of it to an English syndicate, who, hearing adverse reports from friends on the ground, refused to stand for it. In the meantime the railway line which runs from Regina to Prince Albert was leased by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. The Qu'-Appelle, Long Lake and Saskatchewan Rallway Company asked the government to take back the presents and allow the company to select lands "fairly fit for set-tlement." The government refused to comply, and were sued by the company, and the latter actually won the first suit The complainant declared its lands unfit for colonization purposes, and the court, in deciding in favor of the plaintiff, said,

same. Of course, the government appealed. The little line now known week; just enough to keep up appearances and hold its charter.

The company went to the expense of The company went to the expense of printing a schedule on the time table, named the stations and nailed bits of boards hearing these names are names to be arrived the stations and nailed bits of the cost.

boards bearing these names upon the tele-graph poles, so that the traveler could tell territories, the rusty rails reached north-ward 249 miles, resting on the banks of the great river of the north at Prince Albert. At Craik, seventy-three miles out, there was a house, and here was heard the one human voice that disturbed the stillness of tion was looked upon by the people of the northwest as the "Never, Never Country" This was the exact situation when Col.

A. D. Davidson, the empire opener, wan-dered into the Canadian northwest in search of worlds to conquer. He was attracted to the Prince Albert railway lands because they had been so

### well advertised-and so universally damned Looked Good to Him.

At first glance they looked good to him, and he had come to have faith in his own judgment. He talked with friends and others, got no encouragement, and went stalked, looked at it and felt of it, and in the end concluded that the land was not only fit for colonization, but was really ex-cellent land. Straightway he bought the entire grant, 850,000 acres. To be sure, this was only a beginning. He

people to look at the land; to induce a few farmers to settle and prove that the fields were really productive. To make this pay. he must have more land-a solid block-so he went to the government, told them, con-vinced them that the country was all right, and promised if they would sell to him and his associates the even numbered sections in a certain number of townships, he would bind his company to people this already damned desert, and would put up \$50,000 as guarantee. By this agreement the Sas-atchewan Valley Land Company was was bound to place so many settlers in the district without any cost to the government.

This gave the colonel a block of 800,000 acres, at \$1.52, and 250,000 acres, at \$1.00, but, as above set forth, he undertook to people the district, a really serious under-taking at that time—so serious that it was set down in cold type, and is still preserved, that here was a case of a "Yankee" with more money than brains. A gentleman speaking in public, declared the whole scheme an infamous bargain that would retard the settlement of the northwest. adventurers and "land boomers would settle homeseekers in this "never, never country" who would starve out, stagger back over the border and damn the dominion as a desert waste.

### Wholesale Advertising. -

Meanwhile the colonel, having bound himself and his associates to do certain things. was pounding away trying to hit upon a scheme to do as much advertising in three months as could be done in the ordinary way in three years. This he did quite accidentally. At the Chicago Club he asked a friend-a banker-to go up and see his new possessions, and the banker accepted the invitation. Before he left the club four others, bankers, grain dealers, brokers and others, agreed to join him, and he arranged for a Pullman car. Later, as the idea developed, he sent out invitations to others; they accepted, and he engaged a Pullman train. To be sure, he was well known to the bankers and business men of America, being himself president of twelve banks in Minnesota and Dakota. That was two

years ago last June. Finally when all arrangements were completed and the splendid train left Chicago the quiet colonel had as his guests two hundred bankers, business men and journalists from eight different states. He carried them to Prince Albert, some fifteen hundred miles, entertained them for ten days or a fortnight, and returned them to Chicago, each filled with amazement at the magnitude, magnificence and wonderful future possibilities of the Canadian northwest.

like sending an army to operate far from the base. Houses and supplies for men, horses and feed for them had to be provid-ed, but the land company were equal to it, and, in six months, staggering as this state-ment may sound, they had unloaded this eleven hundred thousand acres of land that

No Longer Bad Lands.

And what of the "bad lands?" I came down over the Prince Albert branch the other day. They have taken the tags from the telegraph poles and nailed them up over the doors of rox cars that have been ditched for depots, and in front of which long platforms have been built to receive the reapers, mowers and household effects of incoming settlers.

Enterprising as the Canadian Pacific peo

ple are, they are utterly unable to keep pace with the development along the Prince Albert branch. The fields on either side of the track are filled with stacks and stacks Elevators are springing up at many of the way stations. Near Davidson (named for the colonel) are four of the largest farms in Canada. A Mr. Detchon of Chicago has here one farm of 4,000 acres of Chicago has here one farm of 4,000 dees ready for crop next year. They run daily freight trains on the branch line now, and a daily passenger train each way, with a first-class sleeping car attached. The diner attached to the colonel's special was the first of its kind to travel so far north on

If you ask him what the special cost, he will tell you frankly that it cost a lot of money. Others, contemplating a similar trip say, "It costs thirty thousand dollars to do thirty hundred miles, as Col. Davidson did it." So that, I presume, is a "lot of money."

Near Saskatoon the recently revived line is being crossed by the rails of the Cana-dian Northern, and very soon, near Hanley. one hundred and twenty or thirty miles north of Regina, the Grand Trunk Pacific's "Northland Limited," after plowing through 350 miles of almost unbroken wheat lands. will dash over the right of way, cross the great Saskatchewan valley, whip around the southwest corner of the Eagle hill and on to Edmonton; by the banks of Athabasca, through Peace River pass and down to Port Simpson, or some other seaport on he Pacific ocean.

Aye, the colonel has people this wilderness, and today what was a desert waste is dotted with farms and filled with happy, prosperous people. The success of these hundreds of satisfied settlers will bring thousands of other settlers, until the whole Saskatchewan valley shall be given to the plow and become what the dauntless empire opener now calls it, "the bread basket of the world."

CY WARMAN.

## COSTLY ENGLISH GARDENS.

At Least 5,000 Involve an Annual Expense of \$2,500 or More Each. F om the Chicago Chronicle.

It has been said that there are a score of noblemen in the united kindom who spend more every year on their gardens than would pay the official salaries of the entire cabinet, and, extravagant as the statement may appear, it is well within the limits of the

Further than this there are, on the best authority, more than 5,000 "seats of the mighty," or at least of the rich, the gardens of which cost their owners anything almost from \$2,500 a year upward, while there are as many more which demand between \$1,000 and \$2,500 a year for their maintenance. Of these 10,000 British gardens an annual sum estimated at over \$10,-000,000 is spent for labor alone, and another round million pounds at least goes in the purchase of seeds, plants and manures, and the general upkeep of the gardens and glass

It is difficult and, perhaps invidious to say which are the most costly gardens in Great Britain, but among them are certainly those of Trentham hall, Welbeck abbey, Lord Eute's gardens at Cardiff castle, the famous gardens of Chatsworth and those of the Rothschilds, on which gold has been lav shed like water.

One gets an impressive idea of the extent of such gardens as these when the kitchen R., a pathetic piece of railway, continued to mark time with one or two trains a the houses in which peaches, apricots and nectarines are grown stretch for a quarter of a mile, and that to stock them costs as

Not long ago a rich man in the north of England discovered that one secwhen he was passing a town. And out of the city of Regina, capital of the Northwest through exposure to the keen east wind. This was not to be tolerated, said the great man, and to keep the eastern winds from trespassing he planted thousands of Scotch and Norweigan fir trees to act as a screen, paying as much as \$25 for individual trees. This little whim cost him nearly \$100,000. that vast unoccupied and by the court's decree uninhabitable wilderness. This sec-

dise of flowers.

In such gardens as these it is quite usual to employ as many as seventy or eighty men and boys, so that a cabinet minister's yearly salary may easily go in wages alone. It is said that there are 900 country houses in Great Britain each of which employs a staff of over fifty men; of these 200 employ between eighty and 150, while sixty of them employ over 200; and the large majority of all these male servants are gardeners of one kind or another. In addition to the cost of labor there are

repairs and alterations of houses, furnaces to be fed, walls built for fruit growing, nets for protection, tools to buy and replace, and -often the most costly item of all-seeds back to the "bad lands." He drove and and plants to furnish. Baron Schroder is walked over the district, prospected, credited with having spent \$200,000 on his collection of orchids, and Sir Trevor Lawrence with an expenditure of \$150,000.

Joseph Chamberlain has thirteen glass houses, containing, roughly, 6,000 plants, many of them of great value and gathered from almost every part of the earth where knew that he must spend thousands, if not hundreds of thousands, of dollars to get orchids are to be found. The plants are arranged in different houses according to the time of flowering, so that the succession of exquisite flowers never fails the whole year Each plant bears its number as well as its name, and it is said that Mr. Chamberlain knows every one of his floral

### Editorial Omniscience Recognized.

From the Chicago Tribune. The editor of a newspaper would be the last person in the world to contract the scope of his jurisdiction or to deprecate an imputation of universal knowledge. Occasionally, however, even he is driven by his admirers into at least the early stages of embarrassment. He then feels on his weathered cheek a faint recrudescence of what used to be the blush of modesty.

Yesterday, for instance, Mr. G. G. Rorke of Crown Point, Ind., sent to the Tribune letter to which such answers as can be hastily summoned are herewith appended:
"Please answer the following questions for the benefit of an out-of-town reader:
"1. Is it true that the Japanese are an immoral race and that they always have a second woman in the household, not a regular wife, but a sort of concubine?—(No, not

always, but rarely.)
2. "Is Germany in a bad financial state, and are hundreds of people walking the streets of Berlin unemployed?—(Some time ago the industries of Germany were badly shaken, but now fairly normal conditions have been restored.)

"3. Does Roosevelt wear evening dress?-(In the evening.) 4. Can a person be a full-blooded negro have straight hair?"-(Ask Senator

A man would be more than a human be-ing if he were not profoundly touched by being made the trusted object of such interrogations as these. And he would be more, even, than an editor if he did not feel that they constituted a complete recog-nition of his deserts. All that he can ejac-ulate in thanks is: "Yes, you have found me out; but it's just my little foible, om-niscience. Don't force me to be ostenta-tious about it."

### Strong in Death.

From the Philadelphia Press. "So Skorcher is dead." "Yes, he collided with another automo bile yesterday and-"

"Was instantly killed, eh?" "Not instantly. He lived long enough to offer to bet that the other fellow's machine was damaged worse than his."

What It Really Means to a New Member.

HIS DUTIES AND PAY

HE IS TAKEN CARE OF IN MANY WAYS.

Perquisites That Make a Very Tidy Addition to His Salary-What He Gets Free.

Vritten for The Evening Star. What does it really mean to be "sent to

Congress' these days? Dollars to doughnuts, you would make a pretty bad "flunk" if examined on this point, unless you be a politician. As a matter of fact, the average congressional "freshman" knows little of what is expected of him, or of what he need expect, until a blindfolded page draws his seat for him by lot on his thrilling and exciting "first day at school.

More than 800 men are contesting for 380 seats in the national House of Representatives, and the fight will grow hotter as passes each of the next few days. We do not read so much about the congressional campaign in a "presidential year" as we do just before the alternate federal elections. Nevertheless, more ballots will be polled for representatives next month than there were two years ago, or than there will be two years hence. A presidential election always brings out more voters than a congressional or "off-year" contest. But there is no lack of ginger in a congressional campaign simply because presidential electors head the tickets. Each party has a congressional campaign committee con posed of one congressman from each state and generaled by a chairman as independent as either national committee chairman. Literature is sent out in foreign tongues and speeches made in different lingues under auspices of this supervisory board. Of course, a majority in both houses of the federal legislature must be fought for as bitterly as the presidency itself, for a President is practically helpless if he have an opposition or even a mixed Congress to deal with.

The democrats are fighting to wipe out the republican majority of thirty-four in the House. Even if they do this and elect Parker they are sure to have a republican Senate on their hands, and this would act upon all of Parker's nominations and treaties during the first two years of his administration. Only one-third of the senators are elected every two years, and no matter what miracles the democrats can accomplish from now on, the state legis-latures cannot elect enough of the old party's partisans to give it a majority in the upper house. However, a mixed Congress is not so baneful to a President in the first half of his administration as in the latter. Since the civil war every chief executive except Grant who has ended a term with an opposed or mixed Congress has seen his party chastised by the people at the next election. The men who drop the little ballots into the box only consider the fact that nothing has been accounplished and never allow for extenuating

### The Mixed Congresses.

circumstances

Since the civil war the republicans have had a majority in the Senate, except in four Congresses. In the House the democrats have had control during eight Congresses only within the same period. Durng the second half of Grant's last term there were a republican Senate and a democratic House. Garfield and Arthur came into power with a reversion of this condition—a democratic Senate and a republican House. The latter half of Arthur's term things were again reversed, the Senata being republican and the House democratic, and so they remained in two other mixed Congresses during Cleveland's first administration. Harrison had a solid republican Congress with him during the first half of his term, but in the latter half the House was democratic. It would have been better for him had the mixed legislature been in the first instead of the last two years of his administration. Cleveland suffered the same fate, for the Senate was republican during the last two years of his next

The senators' and representatives' pit tance of \$5,000 a year is meager compared with what the average successful physician, lawyer, engineer or merchant receives an-nually. But just as the peers and commoners of England are practically all of them business men, our congressmen do not de-pend upon politics for their livelihoods. Fortunately for them it is not demanded that they abandon their private pursuits. So it is not surprising to note that poor, hand-to-mouth-living lawyers from the back woods are entered in the same class with multi-millionaires of the great cities for this exciting congressional race.

A large majority of every Congress are awyers. A seat in either house is very sure to stimulate their practice or increase their clientele, even when they are marked with the "ex" brand of the has-beens. Many are heads of great commercial enterprises, but to them the official salary is a mere drop in the bucket. Hanna, while senator, turned over his entire congressional salary to his clerk. But there are some lazy fel-lows, elected to Congress, who loaf during the nine month's vacation of the short session year and the six months' holiday of the long session year, and who try to make ends meet on the bare congressional wage. How do they do it?

### Mileage, Stationery and Seeds.

A member, whether he be senator or representative, profits, as a rule, directly in proportion to the distance from Washington at which he lives. At the beginning and end of each session he draws five cents the mile on this distance, with which to pay his railroad fare when he comes to the capital and when he leaves it. Of course he uses a pass and this mileage drawn from the public treasury is saved. If he lives on the Pacific coast it amounts to hundreds of dollars a year. If he lives in Hawaii and has free transportation, it goes up into four figures each session. Every member is issued an annual pass by the large rail-road companies. One very conscientious representative refused such a gift during the last session and proclaimed the fact from the housetops. But his colleagues held on to theirs and inwardly called him a "chump."

Another perquisite in both houses is \$125 per year allowed for "stationery," which, since the earliest days has included cutlery, card cases, pocket books and even gloves, dispensed at an official shop, with counter and salesmen, in either wing of the Capitol. Articles are bought at wholesale prices and sold at cost in these stores.

Each spring about \$225 worth of garden seeds are given to each member. These are supposed to be distributed among the poor farmer constituents, but unscrup congressmen have been known to sell them, pocketing the cash realized. Some time ago a member sold his entire seed quota for \$75 to Department of Agriculture. Choice flowers and cuttings from the national botanical gardens at the foot of the Capitol are supplied gratis to members and their families, and thus the florist's bill for pink teas is often eliminated.

### Some Profit on Clerk Hire.

When he travels the new member draws from the official carpenter-general of the Capitol wooden chests designed for his official documents, but which serve excellently well as substitutes for chests and trunks in which to pack Mrs. Member's wardrobe. Entire libraries of books are issued to congressmen each session. These are printed free at the great government publishing house—the largest in the world—and many of them are valuable scientific treatises. These as well as charts and miscellaneous literature are delivered to each member os

Twelve hundred dollars a year is allowed cach member for "clerk hire." It is handed over to him personally, and he need not account for it. He can deposit it in bank to his credit and let his wife and family do his clerical work for him, or he may merely divide it with some one hired as official secretary. One Speaker of the House appointed his daughter clerk to the committee on rules. Several senators have openly accredited their wives as secretarics.

Free Baths and Shaves.

Some members put up at cheap hotels, engaging rooms without baths. "What is the use of paying extra for this luxury when there are in the Capitol, free to congressmen, the best Turkish, Russian and electric baths this side of the ocean?" they ask. There are fifteen tubs on the House side and a goodly number for senators, all in the basement of the Capitol. During ses-sions a colored functionary with a bundle of towels is kept busy calling "next" at

the bath room doors.

The electric bath of the Capitol is a luxmorning with one of those trip-hammer headaches so common to his calling. A dusky attendant tenderly removes the great man's apparel. He is placed upon the zinc plate of a platform and over his head is suspended a crown-ne metter if it he of suspended a crown—no matter if it be of brass and upside down. A switch is turned on and he receives first a "chain shower" the artificial lightning crackling down from the teeth of the brazen halo. Then he seats himself while a flat glass bulb, charged with the subtle fluid, is rubbed over his face and brow. Next he is treated with a throat ironer. Then an electrified roller is passed over his back and shouders. He is topped off with a gentle spray of the current, and feels so invigorated that he can scarce be restrained from repeating the indiscretion of Archimedes. He hastens into the legislative chamber, charged to overflowing with electric eloquence, and makes a speech which is assured to pass into type, no mat-ter how poor it is, for the Congressional Record is bound to report it next morning. after he has edited it carefully-or his clerk

Or he shops of the great Capitol's basement, there being three chairs of tonsorial science in the Senate wing; six in that of the House. Half of the barbers on the House side attend ex-clusively to democrats; the other half to republicans. But on the Senate side there is no political division of tonsorial skill. Republican and democratic hair cuts look

### Free Medicines and Vehicles.

Senators need expend little for medicines, for out of the contingent fund of the upper house has long been purchased wholesale quantities of drugs. In one session were purchased 14,000 quinine pilis-163 for each Senator. Other heavy items are usually those effervescent salts which come in blue bottles, headache powders, lithia wa'er, digestive tablets and cough drops. But why should the member of either house take old? Whenever it hails, snows or he is sent home at public expense behind a spanking livery team-if he have none him An undertaker is usually favored with this livery contract, and I have note of voucher for \$132 thus expended in one

On the House side is kept an emergency surgical case, always convenient for the treatment of stricken members. But in spite of all such precautions members per sist, year after year, in dying on the battle line of duty. Then they are buried at pub-lic expense, and if their families prefer, they may lie in state in the Capitol. For one congressional funeral not so many years back \$700 was paid to a local undertaker, over \$2,000 to the railroads hauling the funeral train, \$40 to a quartet choir, \$125 to a decorator and \$250 for crepe, ribbons, gloves and regalia. The grand total for this free congressional funeral was \$3,205.79 and \$5,000 additional—a year's salary—was voted to the widow, according to long-stand-

It has been estimated that through ex-treme thrift a member of either house can from his office anywhere from \$12,-650 to \$13,290 per Congress, without being As for the glory, few representatives are

the important committee chairmen those men who have attained national fame before coming to Congress are known on the streets of Washington. In the House it is the rule for new members to mouths shut and ears open during their first Congress. Few can gain recognition from the Speaker, even if they choose to break this rule. In the Senate all is different. A halo of glory circles above every

### THE LITTLE PUMPS.

### One of the Attractions of Washington to a Stranger.

"Among the thousand and one attractions of the national capital," said a New England man to a Star reporter today, "are the little pumps with ladles attached to them that one finds scattered at various points about the city. This makes a favorable impression upon one, as it points out the fact that if a man wants a drink of water when he is perambulating the town he doesn't have to butt into a whisky shop to get it.

"Now let me tell you something," continued the man from New England. "I was two days in New York this summer. Never had been there before and they were very hot days. I started out to see the sights hot days. I started out to see the sights and walked a good bit. I'm no lightweight, as you see, and soon I wanted a drink of water. I never do drink anything but water, and on this occasion felt as if I wanted a gallon or so, but I couldn't find any. I stopped a man on the street and said to him: 'My friend, do you know where I can get a glass of water?' He took me into a miserable groggery; we walked up to the bar and he asked the man in charge to give me a drink of water. I ought not to have gone into the bar room, and would not if I had known where I was going, be-cause I am opposed to giving them the slightest encouragement, even that of my presence. The man poured me out about a big thimbleful of water, when I wanted a celery glass full, and it tasted of spirits to me. Same way all along. I couldn't get a drink without violating my principles and going into a gin mill, where I always got a second-hand taste of whisky or some other

poisonous stuff. "Therefore you ought to be grateful for your pumps. A thirsty man walking along the street isn't obliged to patronize a rum shop to get a drink of water.

### Transmuting Energy Into Achievement

Ninety-nine per cent of the sun-power or energy stored up in a ton of coal is lost on its way to the electric-light bulb. Thus we get only a hundredth part of the possible light contained in a ton of coal. The other ninety-nine parts are lost on the way, dissipated in heat, and used up in friction in the engine or the electric apparatus, and never become light. To discover some way to prevent this fearful waste of energy is one of the great problems confronting sci-entists today. Just as fearful a waste of energy goes on in man's use of his own powers. Instead of 100 per cent of his energy appearing in results that are worth while, often not more than 1 per cent of it gets into his real work, the rest being thrown a way discipated in account. gets into his real work, the rest being thrown away, dissipated in scores of ways. A young man starts out in life with a large amount of force and vitality stored up in his brain, nerves and muscles. He feels an almost limitless supply of energy welling up within him, a fullness and buoyancy which know no repression. He believes he will do wonders with this energy, and that he will transmute practically all of it into light—achievement. In the pride of his youth and strength he seems to think that there is practically no end to his power that there is practically no end to his power to throw off energy, and so he often flings to throw off energy and so he often flings it out on every side with reckless prodigality. He burns it up here in a cigarette or a pipe, there in whisky or wine; here he drains it off in heavy suppers and late hours, there in vicious living, idleness, shiftlessness and botched work, until he finally comes to himself with a shock and asks, "Where is the electric light I meant to produce with all my energy? Is this flickering candle flame all that I can generate?" He is appalled to find that, with all his superabundant vitality, he has scarcely produced light enough to illumine his own way, and has nothing left for the world. He who had boasted of his strength and felt confident of shedding a light that would dazzle the world, stumbles along himself in semi-darkness. The energy

## supply. In Washington there are dealers who thrive upon a brokerage in government works of this sort. Twelve hundred dollars a year is allowed

IS OF THE HIGHEST AND RAREST ORDER OF GENIUS.

His Task When He Took Up the Command of the Russian Army in the East.

It is quite possible that as we write the fate of the Russian army may be in process of being decided round Mukden, and that on the sandy plain of the Hun-ho is being fought one of the epoch-making battles of the world. In all probability such a battle, if it is decisive, will be favorable to the Japanese. It is clear that when they next engage their enemy on a great scale they will endeavor to deal him "the blow at the leart." For this purpose they have hurried up reinforcements, and are believed to be making dispositions which will on this occasion prevent the arms of their iron gin when it does close, failing to catch a large portion of the Russian army. He would therefore be a rash man who would confi dently prophesy that the Japanese will again fail in their attempt to bring about a Manchuriar Sedan, for their dash, their effi clency, their staying powers and the evil plight of their enemy all seem to point to a

### Another Man's Job.

But even if, as seems likely, the Japanese are able to deal the Russians a blow of terrible severity at Mukden, one fact will remain, and a fact of immense importance. It is that in Gen. Kuropatkin the Russians possess a general of the highest and rarest craer of military genius. In the great battle round Liaoyang, and in the operations of the two months preceding it, he showed qualities of generalship which, when they are properly understood, will, we believe, call forth universal admiration. Consider what the task before Gen. Kuronatkin was when he took up his command. In the first place, he did not come on the scene till the war was well begun, and so the conditions of action had been dictated for him.
The disposition of the forces, naval and

military, and all the arrangements for supply, had been made, not by him or under his orders, but by the viceroy, Admiral Alexieff, who, whatever else he may be, is not a strategist of the first class. Gen. Kuropatkin found himself, class. Gen. Kuropatkin found himself, that is, called on to carry out "another man's job," and a job which had been ill begun and worse planned. Though it may be too much to say that all was confusion and indecision at the front, it is certainly not too much to say that his first business when he arrived in Manchuria was to rearrange the disposition of his forces, to make provision for their safety and effi-cient supply, and to hold in check an enemy whom he was unable to attack owing to that enemy's military superi ority. He had, in fact, to stand on the de fensive—always the most difficult opera-tion in war. And, difficult as defensive warfare always is, Kuropatkin chose its most arduous form. He did not, that is, retreat at once, gathering his forces while the operation could still be unopposed, to some strong position, but fell back gradually, disputing the ground as he went. For example, his first act was to send a force south, which was apparently intended to try to relieve Port Ar thur, but which was far more probably meant to delay and hamper the Japanese advance, and so prolong as far as possible the initial stages of the war. It may be that he was ordered by the czar to under-take the impossible task of relieving Port Arthur; but if he did receive that order, he used it so skillfully that instead of producing a disaster, as a real attempt at re-lief would have done, it enabled him to gain time for preparing a defensive position of immense strength at Llaoyang.

When the tide of Japanese advance swept over this first bulwark, and his troops were driven out of Newchwang, the military situation had, from his point of view, d'stinctly improved. It is true that he was unable to hold the lines round Liaoyang as Wellington held the lines at Torres Vedras but before he evacuated his prepared position he forced the Japanese to dash them which inflicted, at any rate, as great a loss on the assailants as on the defenders.

### Showed His Ability.

It was, however, in his retreat from Liao yang, even more than in the battles round it, that Gen. Kuropatkin showed his mili tary genius. He managed to withdraw his army in the face of the enemy's flerce assaults, and of their desperate attempts to turn his flanks, and also in spite of a difficult country, and of roads deep in mud. And this he did without any loss in guns or prisoners that is worth considering. It is officially stated by the Japanese only thirteen prisoners were taken. If this is indeed the full tale, it is without parallel in the history of war. An army retreating under attack, even when its morale is undisturbed, almost expects to lose prisoners owing to the fact that detached bodies have necessarily to be left behind to delay the enemy. The general in retreat usually counts upon having pieces snipped off th "fringes" of his force. That Kuropatkin suffered no such loss is a sign of the masterly way in which the retreat was conducted.

In our view, then, the Russians have a great "asset" in Gen. Kuropatkin, for in him they possess a soldier who knows how to retreat in the face of the enemy without being destroyed, or even suffering any ser-lous demoralization. After all, that is the Russian tradition. The men who retreated before Napoleon in 1812 were always being before Napoleon in 1812 were always being beaten in the field and always falling back, and yet never suffered the sort of disaster and the dispersion of their force that the French expected. It was the same when Russia appeared to yield before the impetuous onslaughts of Charles XII. The Russians were always beaten and always in retreat till Pultowa. We do not, however, mean by this parallel to suggest that the Japanese are in the least likely to meet with a Pultowa. Nothing, indeed, is fur-ther from our thought, for the Japanese generalissimo is not an inspired madman like the royal Swede, while all the other conditions are totally different, and the difference is against, and not in favor of, the Russians. We merely quote the example of the Pultowa campaign to show that Kuropatkin is carrying on the Russian military tradition in the matter of retreat. It is clear also that the Russians possess another asset of great value in the fidelity and "dour" courage of the ordinary Rus-sian soldier. The Russian soldier is still what he has been throughout history—a man without dash or initiative, or the fine man who will stand where he is told to stand till he is killed, and who is not panicstricken by disaster or awed into subm's-sion by the superior skill or courage or numbers of the enemy. He does not know say that we do not expect either the spe-cial and peculiar genius of Kuropatkin for war, or the stolldity of the Russian soldier, to give victory over the Japanese. It does, however, look as if these two national as-sets may be available to extract Russia from the worst form of disaster, and so prevent that complete debacle which the earlier stages of the war seemed to promise The Japanese, expecting to break a bar of iron by hard blows, may find that they are in reality pounding a huge mass of in-

### Bonds of Postal Clerks.

In the annual report of Posmaster General Wynne a recommendation will be made to the effect that postal clerks who so desire may transfer their bonds from one company to another. This action on the part of the Postmaster General will be taken at the request of Arthur Donaghue, president of the National Association of Post Office Clerks, and J. F. Canavan of the advisory committee of that organization, both of whom have called on Mr. Wynne and requested the amendment of the postal laws and requested to

## **NURPLUS** 0F

# **LOOR**

In buying for large government contracts we were forced to take unusually large quantities in order to get an extremely low price. This surplus, including the very latest patterns of qualities such as government selects, we are merchandising at reduction of one-fourth to one-

Our prices tell the tale in their own emphatic way.

### Axminsters.

97c.-Smith's Saxony. Was \$1.35. \$1.15—Smith's Axminster. Was \$1.17—French Axminster. \$1.65. \$1.22—Bigelow Axminster.

### Tapestry Brussels.

\$1.35—Bigelow Axminster.

\$1.75.

65c.—Tapestries. Were 85c. 70c.—Smith's Brussels. Was 95c. 5c.-Roxbury Brussels. Was \$1.00. 87c.—Best 10-wire Brussels. Was

### Body Brussels,

Containing all the season's choicest Largest Stock South of New York. 92c.-Various makes. Were \$1.25. 92c.—Various makes. Were \$1.25. \$1.10—Best 5-frame. Was \$1.35. \$1.17—Bigelow Body Brussels. Was

Was \$1.21-Bigelow Body Brussels. Was

Was \$1.22-Bigelow Body Brussels. Was

### Velvets,

In Endless Variety.

87c.-Velvet. Was \$1.25. 97c.—Smith's Velvet. Was \$1.25.

\$1.12-Best Velvet. Was \$1.35. \$1.17-Wilton Velvet. Was \$1.65. \$1.22-Wilton Velvet. Was \$1.75.

### Our Rug Stock is Replete With the Very Newest Designs. Our Assortment is so Large as to Harmonize With Almost Any Decorations.

### Axminster Rugs, 9x12.

\$19.75--Were \$27.50. \$22.00—Were \$30.00.

\$47-French Axminster. Was \$65. 9x12 Smyrna Rugs.

\$27.50-Were \$35.00. \$29.75—Were \$40.00.

\$32.50-Were \$42.00. \$17.50—Jute Smyrnas. Were \$25.

A number of Stock Rugs made from remnants of carpets from \$1.50 to \$3.50 per yard are also well

## worthy of your attention. Bring the measurement of your room and you will save 1/2.

# Clark, Davenport & Co.,

AUTUMN DAYS AND THEIR RELA-

Is the Tailor the True Arbiter of Men's

October days still hint of the field rather than of the drawing room, and it will be well into November before we will put on formal clothes. The American of wealth and social position either builds or leases a country estate, and spends there as much time as he can snatch from his business affairs. Newport, Lenox and Bar Harbor are veritable colonies of the socially smart, and they reach the full flush of their gayety during early autumn. Thus, the season in town is always backward in opening, and the important question of formal clothes is rarely setfled until the air has the sting of nettles in it, and whips one's blood to the surface. I attach relatively little weight to what the tailors say, but prefer to judge the mode by personal observation. It has been my experience that fashions often change in the process of their adoption, and that the clothes worn at the horse show and ly trumpeted as correct at the beginning of paragraphers. They strut and attitudinize for the benefit of the camera, and indulge in dress absurdities that the staggered reporter promptly chronicles as the latest expression of the mode. Of course, these youths have no more real influence on fash-

Evening Dress. Evening dress brings little change this eason. Cravats are broad, two inches, and are fashioned of lawns, dimities and piques. The soft-finished stuffs with an indistinct cord running through are smart. Either frenzy of battle, but at the same time a cord running through are smart. Either man who will stand where he is told to wide or blunt-pointed ends are correct. For the evening jacket, black baratheaser peau de soie, unlined, and cut very full, is indorsed. Both the white the and the jacket the must be large and adjusted a bit loosely rather than drawn into a hard knot. The when he is beaten, and if he does not expect victory, is equally unexpectant of defeat. He plods on in a sort of dumb indifference to his fate. Once more let us the fabric. There are three buttons, pearly the fabric in the fab aiways. Gold and jeweled buttons are bad form, as are all attempts to give evening form, as are all attempts to give evening dress an ornate touch. Its cardinal virtue is its severe simplicity, and when we swerve from that, then comes chaos. I nave no patience with the faddists who would turn the made of dress hallowed by tradition the mode of dress, hallowed by tradition and endeared by custom, into a harlequin's costume. The evening shirt may be plain white or pique, and may have one stud or two. The stud question is a matter of preference, not of propriety. Long-waisted men should use two studs to break the expanse of white, whereas short-waisted men should favor one stud to gain as long an effect as possible. The smartest avening shirt has a linen bosom and a body and sleeves of white silk, making the garment light and easys to slip the coat over when

> reserved for the evening jacket. The collar should be a lap front or a poke; never a wing, with the swallow-tail. Straight standing collars give the wearer too funercal an aspect, besides clutching the flesh under

# \$1.39-English Inlaid. Was \$1.60.

TION TO FORMAL DRESS.

ion than a flashy vaudeville performer, to whom they are kin in more ways than one. They are essentially fad followers. dressing hurriedly.

aspect, besides ciutching the fiesh under that the postal laws and regulations to meet the colonia and his associates were compeled to build two hotels, which the opened and ran free for the public. Miss was a wilderness then, with only the names of unborn cities an laid to the polics. Not a roof or a rag of carvas to cover the landlookers, save that which the find the polics. Not a roof or a rag of carvas to cover the landlookers, save that which the following hereal laws and regulations to meet the desired of shedding a light that the desired end.

As It is Understood—Sometimes.

As It is Understo

## Wiltons, 9x12.

\$31.00-Were \$40.00.

\$9-All-wool Art Squares. Were \$12

\$11-Domestic Kashmirs. Were \$16.

\$10-Ishtack Rugs. Were \$14.

\$35.00-Were \$45.00. \$46.50-Were \$60.00. Miscellaneous, 9x12.

### \$6—All-wool Art Squares, 7 ft. 6 in.x

Linoleums. 65c.-Printed. Was 90c. 72c.—Printed. Was \$1.00. 95c.-Various makes. Were \$1.35.

\$1.22-American. Were \$1.40. \$1.32-German. Were \$1.50.

# 12th and F Sts.

### STYLES IN MEN'S WEAR

Fashions?-Waistcoat Sense and Nonsense. From the Haberdasher.

at other assemblies of well-dressed men are different in cut and fabric from those loudthe season. The person who really in-fluences the mode is he with independent notions as to what becomes him and the ability to drill these notions into his tailor. There is a band of extremists in dress composed of very young men with an unconquerable yearning to shine in the "society columns" of the penny dreadfuls. These young men pose as fashion arbiters, and have no end of fun with the newspaper

Studs and Links.

As hitherto, only pearl studs and links accompany formal evening dress. Gold is

black, silk or sheer lisle, and have self-embroidery or self-clocks. Laced socks and fanciful effects of every kind are unpar-donable. White place gloves with self-backs are smarter than those with heavy black silk backs. Evening boots are of buttoned silk backs. Evening boots are of bultoned patent leather or varnished calfskin, save for a dance, when pumps or low-cut laced shoes are handlest. Many men wear the buttoned boots as far as the host's or hostess' house, and exchange them in the dressing room for their pumps, which they carry in their overcoat pockets. This prevents the dancing shoes from getting wet vents the darcing shoes from getting wet or solled on the way to and from the or solled on the way carriage or in waiking.

Mufflers. Mufflers to go with evening dress may be plain white or black silk; white is a shade smarter. Besides, it is less prone to get moist from perspiration and disfigure the freshness of shirt or waistcoat. So-called protectors, stitched and with padded linings, are never worn. The correct muffler should be as large as one can buy, full and flowing in form, and guiltless of stitching or lining. It is folded in the center by the wearer and slipped on. The silk hat is the only proper accompaniment of formal evening dress; the opera is losing its vogue, and promisenously worn, has come to be and, promiscuously worn, has come to be the mark of the "bounder." Its place is at the opera or the play, and no where else. Much of what I have written here is traversing well-worn ground, but the opening of the social season, with its dances, dinners, receptions, club affairs, bridge partles and so on, makes a summary of correct evening clothes timely. I am not a stickler for the fads and frills of dress, but my tastes and associations incline me to that conservatism without which dress becomes a mere field for the exploiting of dangerous personal ideas and preposterous eccentrici-ties. That fashion is held in higher esteem today than ever before is due to the efforts of a small group of men who have steadfastly protested against accepting the fop as a type of the well-dressed American. He

### represents nothing but his own tastes. Winter Hose.

Dark prune and dark chocolate are winsome shades for winter hose. Among the newest and most fetching mixtures are prune and black, prune and champagne and black and mahogany. Tan is not approved, save in the deeper colors. Jacquard spots in mixed grounds and slate and black combinations demand their share of notice. For wear with evening clothes, French liste hose with black embroideries or clocks on black grounds are favored by the younger set. Cashmere hose are offered in plaids, tans, Jacquard stripes and instep and detached figures. Silk and cashmere mixtures in grays and tans, accordion cashmeres with ribbed ankles and dark myrtle and maroon effects have just been unpacked from abroad. In long stockings only the plain shooting hose have a place now. The col-ors are old Oxford, gray, heather mixtures and Scotch treatments. Turn-over tops on long hose are passe. Khaki color stockings have lately sprung up as favorites for golf. Bath robes of recent importation are shown in combinations of tobacco with blue, dark helio with nile and gray with wine. Detached Jacquard figures on white grounds in shades of blue, dark helio, nile and currant are inexpressibly dainty. Fancy Picca-dilly handkerchiefs in new red brown grounds printed in extracted colors, cashmere effects, navy spots, bright orange,

## green orange and green centers are among the latest offerings of English makers.

Knit gloves for the biting winter days are of the heavy Scotch hand-made sort in the new browns, beaver grays and with Jacquard backs. At one time the demand for knit gloves dwindled, but the spreading vogue of motoring has served to kindle it afresh. This very comfortable and serviceable hand covering is worn over the leather gloves that the autoist uses to protect him against keen wintry winds. The solid red knit glove, plain and with black stitching on the back, is still the preferred golf glove. White knit gloves are worn by many men over their evening gloves to prevent them from soiling on the way to a dance or a play.

Ephraim Cook was struck by a passenger train near Bluefield, W. Va., Wednesday night, dying about four hours later. The